Purchase of electric locomotives

384. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since placed any order worth 200 million dollars for purchase of electric locomotives from the Swedish-German firm Asea Brown Boveri;

(b) whether the deal includes transfer of technology for part-indigenous production of the machines; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Advance letter of accepatance has been issued to M/s. Asea Brown Boveri (ABB) Switzerland on 18.3.92 for purchase of 30 no. 6000 HP 25 KV AC Electric Locos alongwith associate spares in the form of three locomotives with transfer of technology at a total FOB Cost of Swiss Francs 169,689,970, Deutsche Marks 139, 140, 250 and Rs. 3,50,00,000. Detailed contract has yet to be issued.

(b) and (c) Contemplated Contract includes simultaneous transfer of technology for series manufacture of locomotives at Chittaranjan Locomotive Works.

Running of Teesta-Torsha Express daily

385. SHRI ASHIS SEN:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Government of West Bengal to run the Teesta- Torsha Express daily instead of Tri-Weekly;

(b) if so, the detials thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A letter from Minister of Urban Development, Government of West Bengal has been received in this regard.

(c) Examined but not found feasible due to operational constraints.

Untested technology offered by the ABB

386. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the three-phase technology offered by the ABB is untested;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it would harm the country's interests; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Loss incurred by railways due to forged tickets and ticketless travel

387. SHRI ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss incurred by Railways during the last three years as a result of forged rail tickets and ticketless travel; and

(b) the detailed remedial measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Checks are made by the railways to prevent travel on forged rail tickets and without tickets. No account of undetected losses is kept as such losses are unquantifiable.

(b) In order to curb the menace of forged ticket and ticketless travel, preventive and decoy checks are conducted in Reservation/Booking Counters, Platforms and running trains throughout the country. Special concerted